

Important Information from your City of Fresno Department of Public Utilities,
Providing Life's Essential Services.

Look Out for LEAKS!

Make changes before your "real" meter bill comes

Over the next two months, more than 40,000 residential water customers will begin the process of being converted to a metered rate for water.

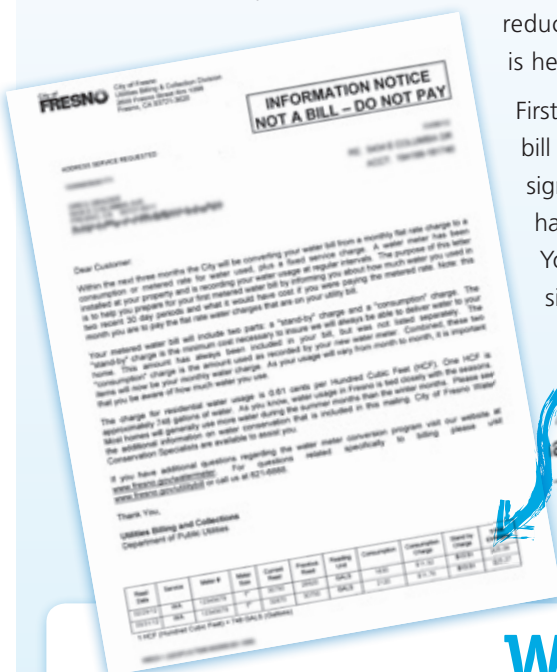
The process starts with two "practice bills" to help avoid any surprises. Now more than ever, it's important to understand how much water you're using and how to reduce water waste. And the City of Fresno is here to help.

First, review the charges on your practice bill (see sample). If the "total charges" are significantly higher than the flat rate you have been paying, then pay close attention. You may have a leak. Water leaks are the single biggest cause of unexpected water

use, and even the smallest leak can raise your water bill.



If you suspect you may have a leak in your home or yard, it's a good idea to start hunting for it before your first real metered water bill arrives.



Where to Look

Start your water leak hunt by visiting the usual suspects: outdoor hoses and faucets, sprinkler systems, swimming pools, toilets, indoor faucets, and baths/showers.

Hoses, and indoor or outdoor faucets can all be checked visually for water dripping. You can fix a leaky faucet by replacing worn washers and gaskets.

Sprinkler system leaks may be harder to spot because pipes and fittings are often buried. If you see a suspiciously green area of grass or weeds or feel soggy ground, you may have a leak. If the leak is coming from a sprinkler, then the irrigation valve that controls the sprinkler needs repair. If the leak is coming from the pipe below however, there really isn't an easy fix – you'll probably need to dig up the pipe.

Toilet leaks are also common culprits. One way to identify toilet leaks is to place a few

drops of food coloring in the tank and do not flush. If the color seeps into the bowl within 15 minutes, you have a leak. Leaky toilets are most often caused by faulty flappers – a fairly cheap and easy "do-it-yourself" fix, or the float is set too high. If you have an older toilet that flushes 3.5 gallons or more per flush, and want to replace it with a high efficiency unit, the City of Fresno offers a rebate. Call the Conservation office for information about rebates.

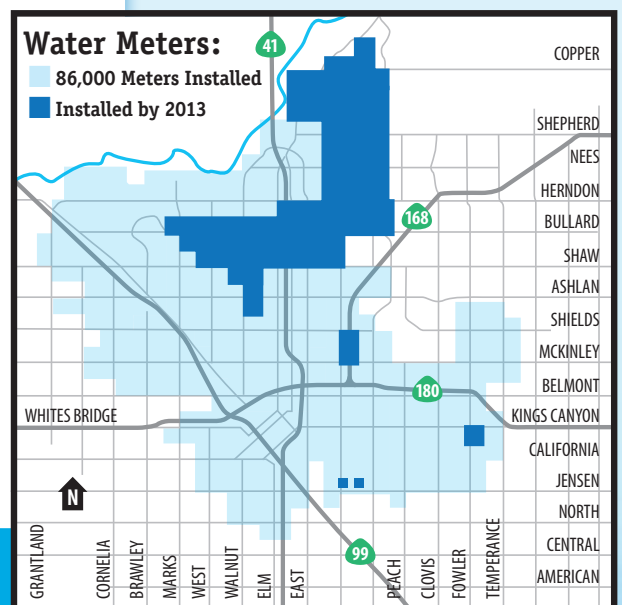


WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

If you've tried to hunt down your water leak to no avail, you can call the City and make an appointment for a free water leak survey. Water Conservation representatives will check for water leaks and other water inefficiencies both inside and outside of your home. They will also include a free landscape irrigation consultation, show you how to set your automatic timer, and provide irrigation and plant material tips.

Why we are getting water meters?

The City of Fresno needs to move to metered water now to satisfy the Central Valley Project (CVP) contract that supplies Fresno up to 60,000 acre-feet of water from behind Friant Dam.



The water meter installation project is the largest capital improvement project ever undertaken by the City of Fresno Water Division. The good news is that the project is ahead of schedule and under budget. By now, most customers (86,000) have their meter boxes in, and their meters installed. By 2013, all residential customers will be converted.

FACT zone May is Water Awareness Month!

- Fix leaky toilets or replace inefficient units with high efficiency toilets (saves **30-500 gallons** per week)
- Use shut-off nozzles on your hoses and a broom to clean driveways and sidewalks (saves **8-18 gallons** per minute)
- Run the dishwasher only when full (saves **2-4.5 gallons** per load)
- Plant water-wise San Joaquin Valley-friendly trees and plants (**saves 2/3 of the water** used compared to non-water-wise plants)
- Install aerators on your faucets and low-flow shower heads in the bath (saves **1-3 gallons** per minute)

The Cool of the Pool

With the heat of summer fast approaching, you may be looking to freshen your swimming pool with pristine water. Keep in mind that you may drain your pool **no more than once every three years** and you'll need to apply for, and receive, a permit prior to draining.

To obtain a **FREE permit**, apply online at www.fresno.gov/water or call 621-5480.



Water use increases during the hot summer months, as much as 70% is used outdoors.

What Goes Where?

Be Cart Smart & Follow This Easy List!

BLUE

Recyclables

- Emptied & Dried Paint Cans & Buckets
- Small Appliances (*hair driers, blenders, toasters, etc.*)
- DVDs, CDs & Video Cassettes
- Tools
- **ALL** Paper (*not soiled*)
- **ALL** Cardboard (*please flatten*)
- **ALL** Plastics (*including plastic bags*)
- **ALL** Metal
- Empty Glass Bottles & Jars

GREEN

Green Waste

- Plant, Fruit & Veggie Clippings from the Garden
- Leaves
- Palm Fronds
- Weeds
- Tree Prunings & Untreated Wood (*less than 4" in diameter and cut to 3' lengths*)
- Sawdust
- Grass

GRAY

Garbage

- **STYROFOAM**
- Cooking Oils & Grease (*tightly sealed*)
- Kitchen Food Waste
- **COLD** Barbecue Coals & Ashes
- Diapers
- Bagged Animal Waste
- Rubber Hoses

Phone zone

One Call Center..... 621-CITY(2489)

After-Hour Emergencies.....	621-1100
Billing Questions (Utility Billing & Collections).....	621-6888
Account Info & Credit Card Payments Online.....	www.fresno.gov/utilitybill
Community Revitalization / Code Enforcement.....	621-8400
Graffiti Hotline.....	621-8247
Household Hazardous Waste.....	600-4259
Mayor/Council Offices.....	621-8000
Oil-Used Motor Oil & Curbside Collection.....	621-1111
Recycling Hotline.....	621-1111
Solid Waste Management Division (Garbage, Recycling & Operation Clean Up).....	621-1452
Speakers' Bureau.....	621-5480
Street Maintenance/Median Islands.....	621-1492
Tours.....	621-8635
Tire Disposal.....	621-8400
Tree Roots, Street Drainage, Sidewalks & Potholes, Street Tree Trimming & Streetlights.....	621-1492
Wastewater Management Division.....	621-5100
Collection System Maintenance (Sewer Maintenance).....	621-1496
Water Division.....	621-5300
Water Conservation Program.....	621-5480

Composting Made Easy

Before you go tossing your kitchen scraps in your gray cart and your yard clippings in your green cart, you may want to stop and think about composting. Composting is nature's way of recycling and a great way to organically feed your garden that will help plants thrive. By composting your vegetable food waste, leaves, twigs,



Composting provides a great soil amendment for your family garden.



used tea bags, and coffee and filters, you'll also keep this organic material out of our landfill and increase Fresno's already award-winning diversion rate.

You can also help your lawn by "grass cycling" your lawn clippings. Short clippings help soil retain moisture so lawns don't dry out as quickly and add nitrogen and other important elements back into the soil.

Visit <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/homecompost/> for more information and step-by-step instructions!

City of FRESNO



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Providing Life's Essential Services

www.fresno.gov

100% recyclable.

DPU46864 / 04.16 / 133.5M / CP

WATERING SCHEDULE

SPRING/SUMMER
March 2 - November 30

NO
WATERING
MONDAYS

ODD Numbered Addresses:
(Ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9)

Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday

EVEN Numbered Addresses:
(Ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8)

Wednesday/Friday/Sunday

NO WATERING BETWEEN 6 A.M. AND 7 P.M.

Contact www.fresno.gov/water • email: waterconservation@fresno.gov